

Media Advisory



Fish and Wildlife Service Celebrates National Fishing and Boating Week

On June 4, 2012, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will celebrate the start of the nationwide National Fishing and Boating Week and Great Outdoors Month with several hundred schoolchildren, who will drop their lines in the Constitution Gardens pond for a day of fishing on the National Mall. The Service leads the event in coordination with the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation and numerous other local, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations and volunteers.

The youth participating in this event are mostly from urban schools, where opportunities to participate in these types of activities are limited. This angling event highlights the Service's priority to help young people get outdoors and enjoy America's rich and diverse natural resources.

With the help of numerous volunteers, youngsters from several Washington metropolitan area schools will fish for largemouth bass, bluegill and crappie, as well as learn about fishing techniques, angler ethics, safety and aquatic conservation. This event serves to foster natural resource stewardship in America's youth and expose them to careers in natural resources. It also celebrates Great Outdoors Month highlighting the benefits of fresh air, exercise and volunteerism.

WHO: Ken Salazar, Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior
Rowan Gould, Assistant Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Michael L. Connor, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
Jim Pena, Associate Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service
Frank Peterson, President, Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation
Derrick Crandall, President and CEO, American Recreation Coalition
Jim Owens, Founder and Executive Director, C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation

WHAT: National Fishing and Boating Week Youth Event

WHEN: June 4, 2012 (Monday)
Official "VIP Castoff" press conference
10:00 a.m. (EST)

WHERE: Constitution Gardens Pond, National Mall, Washington DC. (The event is located near the intersection of Constitution Avenue and 17th Street, NW, at the eastern end of the pond, along the northern edge of the National Mall.)

MEDIA: All credentialed news organizations are invited to attend.

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